

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A cookware article comprising:
 - a handle;
 - two opposable surfaces;
 - a detachable hinge;
 - a lifting handle; and
 - a means for locking said opposable surfaces.
2. A cookware article of claim 1 wherein the means for locking is comprised of:
 - a stationary sleeve with a second handle positioned at the end;
 - a stationary pin with a positioning collar;
 - a semi-circular collar accommodating a rotation limiting latch pin and shoulder stop wherein said semi-circular collar is interlocked with said stationary pin;
 - a round shaft accommodating lateral movement limiting rings;
 - wherein said shaft is inserted through said stationary sleeve; and
 - wherein said stationary sleeve is attached to one opposing cookware surface.
3. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein said second handle is further used to lift one opposing cookware surface away from the other opposing cookware surface.
4. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein said semi-circular collar is a circular collar.
5. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein said means for locking is further comprised of a return spring.
6. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein said semi-circular collar in said means for locking is comprised of a circular collar accommodating a rotation limiting latch pin and two

shoulder stops, wherein one of said shoulder stop limits movement of said shaft in the counter-clockwise direction and the other said shoulder stop limits movement of said shaft in the clockwise direction.

7. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein the rotation of said second handle is in the range of approximately 20 degrees and 60 degrees.

8. A cookware article of claim 2 wherein said means for locking is detachable from said cookware.